



McGregor W. Scott

United States Attorney
Eastern District of California

Sacramento
501 I. Street, Ste 10-100
Sacramento CA 95814
Tel (916) 554-2700
TTY (916) 554-2855

NEWS RELEASE

Fresno
2500 Tulare St., Suite 4401
Fresno, CA 93721
Tel (559) 497-4000
TTY (559) 497-4500

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 24, 2007

Contact: Sheila Oberto, 559-497-4028

<http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/cae>

RIVERBANK MAN SENTENCED TO 151 MONTHS IN PRISON **FOR DISTRIBUTING AND RECEIVING IMAGES DEPICTING THE** **SEXUAL EXPLOITATION OF MINORS**

FRESNO - United States Attorney McGregor W. Scott announced today that JOSEPH ANTHONY CASTIGLIONE, 29, of Riverbank, California, was sentenced by United States District Judge Lawrence J. O'Neill to a prison term of 151 months to be followed by 180 months of supervised release for distributing and receiving visual depictions of the sexual exploitation of minors. The sentence was imposed for CASTIGLIONE's guilty plea of receiving and distributing visual depictions of the sexual exploitation of minors.

This case was investigated by the United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE).

The investigation in this case was undertaken as part of Project Safe Childhood (PSC). PSC is a United States Department of Justice initiative established to increase federal prosecutions of violent sexual predators of children, and to reduce the number of Internet crimes against children including child pornography trafficking. As a part of PSC, the United States Attorney's Office has teamed with state and local agencies and organizations to increase law enforcement presence on the Internet, and to educate the public about safe Internet use, thereby reducing the risk that children might fall prey to online sexual predators. For additional information on the PSC initiative, please go to www.projectsafefchildhood.gov or call the United States Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of California and ask to speak with the PSC coordinator.

According to Assistant United States Attorney Sheila K. Oberto, who prosecuted the case, CASTIGLIONE admitted in a plea agreement that from May 17, 2006, through January 8, 2007, in Stanislaus County, he used a computer and modem to distribute and receive, via the internet, visual depictions of the sexual exploitation of minors. The distribution involved material depicting prepubescent minors as well as images of minors engaged in sadistic or masochistic conduct or other violence. The offense involved more than 600 images. CASTIGLIONE was remanded into federal custody following entry of his guilty plea on June 1, 2007.